

Peace Corps
FOIA Office
1111 20th Street Northwest
Washington, DC 20526

June 24, 2019

This is a follow up to request number 19-0054:
This request was originally submitted via email to foia@peacecorps.gov. It was last responded to on May 24, 2019 via email by FOIA@peacecorps.gov (error). Due to issues with the original communication method, we are now directing this request to you.

To Whom It May Concern:

I wanted to follow up on the following Freedom of Information Act request, copied below, and originally submitted on March 22, 2019. Please let me know when I can expect to receive a response. You had assigned it reference number #19-0054.

Thanks for your help, and let me know if further clarification is needed.

Filed via MuckRock.com
E-mail (Preferred): 70866-27449697@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News
DEPT MR 70866
411A Highland Ave
Somerville, MA 02144-2516

PLEASE NOTE: This request was filed by a MuckRock staff reporter. Also note that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than "MuckRock News" and the department number) requests might be returned as undeliverable.

On May 24, 2019:

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act Request #19-0054
Hello,

Here is a status update regarding FOIA request 19-0054. I am awaiting a search response from one program office. As soon as I receive a response, a final response will be sent for final clearance.

Sincerely,
Chanel Diggs
FOIA/PA Specialist

On May 22, 2019:

Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act Request #19-0054
Hello Ms. Diggs,

Please let me know if there is any other way I can help clarify this request.

Thanks so much for your help.

Best wishes,
Beryl

On April 22, 2019:
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act Request #19-0054
Hello Ms. Diggs,

Thank you so much for your messages. Your interpretation of the request to mean "the FOIA/Privacy Act office and staff who are responsible for processing the FOIA and appeals cases." If there are estimates for how much time is spent on FOIA as a collateral duty, I would be happy for those estimates, but I understand if they are not tracked.

Thanks!
Beryl

On April 17, 2019:
Subject: RE: FOIA Request No. 19-0054
Dear Beryl Lipton,

Please see the email below requesting clarification for FOIA request 19-0054.

Thank You,
Chanel Diggs
FOIA/PA Specialist
[securedownload]

On April 11, 2019:
Subject: FOIA Request No. 19-0054
Dear Beryl Lipton,
Please confirm our interpretation of his request to mean the FOIA/Privacy Act office and staff who are responsible for processing the FOIA and appeals cases. We ask because each office component has an assigned point of contact to coordinate FOIA record searches, but these are collateral duties, and do not pertain to hiring for that position, nor is it associated with FOIA budgetary information.

Budget materials
- - - > > for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019, all budget materials or plans applicable to offices responsible for processing and response to FOIA requests and appeals submitted to this Bureau and its offices.

Staffing orders/reports/contacts
- - - > > for the years 2017 and 2018, staffing reports and plans, including the count of employee numbers and for offices responsible for processing and responses to FOIA requests and appeals submitted to this Bureau and its offices.

Sincerely,
Chanel Diggs
FOIA/PA Specialist

[securedownload]

On March 22, 2019:

Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request: FOIA March Madness 2019 - FOIA funding, staffing, and activities (Peace Corps)

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, I hereby request the following records:

The following materials related to the funding, staffing, and activities of this FOIA office:

Budget materials

- - - > > for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019, all budget materials or plans applicable to offices responsible for processing and response to FOIA requests and appeals submitted to this Bureau and its offices.

Staffing orders/reports/contacts

- - - > > for the years 2017 and 2018, staffing reports and plans, including the count of employee numbers and for offices responsible for processing and responses to FOIA requests and appeals submitted to this Bureau and its offices.

- If this report is available in a form that includes the total number of hours worked for FOIA personnel, that version would be preferred.

- If reports are available for each month, that version is preferred.

- According to this agency's "About Us" website (<https://www.doi.gov/foia/About-Us>):

"The Department has decentralized its FOIA operations among 13 bureaus and offices, each of which has a Bureau/Office FOIA Officer leading its separately managed and resourced FOIA Program. Secretarial Order 3244 (November 12, 2002) anchored Bureau/Office FOIA Offices within their respective CIOs' Offices. That order was superseded by Secretarial Order 3309 (December 14, 2010), which replaced Bureau/Office CIOs with Assistant Directors for Information Resources and initiated a series of significant ongoing organizational changes as part of the Department's IT Transformation.

Bureau/office FOIA Officers are responsible for tracking, managing and responding to FOIA requests for records in their organization's possession and control, and administering their organization's FOIA programs. In addition to Bureau/Office FOIA Officers, some bureaus/offices also have Regional FOIA Coordinators and Field Offices that process requests. Some bureaus/offices have their program offices (i.e., the offices whose records are the subject of the requests) prepare the responses to FOIA requests. These responses are reviewed by the FOIA Officer or Regional FOIA Coordinator and the appropriate FOIA attorney (when the decision is to withhold information, make a discretionary release, or deny a fee waiver)."

- - - > > all staffing reports and plans for the year 2019

- If reports are available for each month, such a version is preferred.

- - - > > contact information, including email addresses and phone numbers (if available), for each FOIA officer currently tasked with an open public records request

FOIA requester categories

- - - > > for the years 2017 and 2018, the designated category of each requester of a FOIA request to this office, including those assigned to the following categories:

* commercial;

* educational and noncommercial scientific institutions;

* representative of news media requester;
* all other requesters
- If this information is kept in an aggregate form including the number of requesters by fee category by year, a copy of this report will suffice to fulfill this element of the request.

FOIA fee waivers

- - - > > > for the years 2017 and 2018, the number of fee waivers granted by this office and, if available, the tracking numbers for the FOIA requests to which waivers were granted

FOIA fee collection

- - - > > > for the years 2017 and 2018, any report capturing the following information:

* total estimated processing and copy fees quoted to FOIA requesters
* total processing and copy fees collected by this Bureau from each fee category
- If this information is kept in an aggregate form, such as a FOIA log, that material would be sufficient to satisfy the bullet points "FOIA requester categories" and "FOIA fee collection" if it captures the following information:
* FOIA tracking number
* requester fee category
* amount processing and copy fees associated with the request
* the status of the requester's payment for the request

The requested documents will be made available to the general public, and this request is not being made for commercial purposes.

In the event that there are fees, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 20 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Beryl Lipton

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